

III. REMARKS

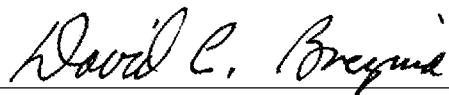
The Examiner's review and indications of allowability are appreciated. Consistent therewith, but without prejudice, Applicant cancels claims 1 – 5, and amends claim 6 to incorporate the limitations of claims 1 – 5. The dependency of claims 7 – 13, 17, 18, 21, 22 has been amended so that those claims all depend from allowable claim 6. Original claims 14, 15, 19 and 23, as drafted, depend from the preceding claims whose dependency has now been changed. All these dependent claims should therefore be allowable.

Claim 25 has been amended to incorporated the limitations of claim 24, but without the limitation objected to under Section 112 grounds. Applicant believes that preserving the parent metal would be understood by one of ordinary skill in light of the discussions at paragraphs 69 – 71 of the specification, but in light of the Examiner's indication of allowability in the last paragraph of page 15, of the action, has amended that limitation out of amended claim 25.

Claims 6 – 15, 17 – 19, 21 – 23, and 25 should be allowed as amended.

Respectfully submitted,

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